

News Release

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USDA REPORTS COMMODITY LOAN ACTIVITY AS OF MARCH 10, 1998

WASHINGTON, March 17, 1998 -- A report of commodity loan activity for grains, cotton, oilseeds, honey and sugar as of March 10, 1998, was issued today by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency (FSA).

Detailed information showing a breakdown of each commodity by state and by farm and warehouse storage is available on the second floor, Main Lobby, of USDA's Kansas City Commodity Office, 9200 Ward Parkway, Kansas City, MO and from the Economic Policy Analysis Staff of USDA's Farm Service Agency in Room 3740-S, South Building, here.

The data in this weekly report are preliminary and subject to adjustment and verification. Any needed adjustment will be made in the monthly reports of loan activity which USDA issues on or about the 10th working day of the month, depending upon availability of data.

Further program information is available from Brenda Chewning, (202) 720-8838, E-mail address Brenda_Chewning@wdc.fsa.usda.gov

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NOTE: Farm Service Agency (FSA) news releases and media advisories are available on the World Wide Web at FSA's Home Page: <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>

Price Support Loan Activity Reported as of March 10, 1998

Item	Wheat	Corn	Grain Sorghum		Barley	Oats	Rye
	Million Bushels		Mil. Bu.	Mil. Cwt.		Million Bushels	
1996 Crop							
Put Under Loan	194.2	970.2	20.4	11.4	28.7	1.5	
Redeemed	194.1	969.4	20.4	11.4	28.7	1.5	
Acquired by CCC	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
9-Mo Outstanding	0.1	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
1997 Crop							
Put Under Loan	247.7	1,095.1	16.6	9.3	30.3	2.3	
Redeemed	59.5	164.0	4.6	2.6	8.8	0.5	
Acquired by CCC	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	
9-Mo Outstanding	188.2	931.1	12.0	6.7	21.5	1.8	
Tot 9-Mo Outstand	188.3	931.9	12.0	6.7	21.5	1.8	0.0

Item	Soybeans	Cotton		Rice	Honey	Sugar	
		Upland 1/	ELS			Beet	Cane
	Mil. Bu.	1,000 Running Bales		Mil. Cwt.		Million Pounds	
1996 Crop							
Put Under Loan	195.9	3,339.4	39.6	68.9		1,167.7	669.9
Redeemed	195.9	3,333.2	39.6	68.9		1,167.7	669.9
Acquired by CCC	0.0	6.1	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0
9-Mo Outstanding	0.0	0.1	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0
1997 Crop							
Put Under Loan	259.5	3,590.8	31.1	67.1		1,068.4	400.2
Redeemed	51.0	1,304.8	16.4	25.1		228.5	30.3
Acquired by CCC	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0		0.0	0.0
9-Mo Outstanding	208.5	2,286.0	14.7	42.0		839.9	369.9
Tot 9-Mo Outstand	208.5	2,286.1	14.7	42.0	0.0	839.9	369.9

Item	Sunflower Seed		Flaxseed	Canola Seed	Safflower Seed	Mustard Seed	Rapeseed
	Oil	Other					
	1,000 Cwt.						
1996 Crop							
Put Under Loan	2,077	458	22	96	5		
Redeemed	2,063	458	22	96	5		
Acquired by CCC	7	0	0	0	0		
9-Mo Outstanding	7	0	0	0	0		
1997 Crop							
Put Under Loan	2,774	224	54	334	6	19	
Redeemed	894	89	13	114	1	11	
Acquired by CCC	0	0	0	0	0	0	
9-Mo Outstanding	1,880	135	41	220	5	8	
Tot 9-Mo Outstand	1,887	135	41	220	5	8	0

1/Cotton loans are for 10 months rather than 9 months.